

**APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR THREE-DIMENSIONAL SCANNING
OF A SUBJECT, FABRICATION OF A NATURAL COLOR MODEL
THEREFROM, AND THE MODEL PRODUCED THEREBY**

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ABSTRACT

An apparatus and method for obtaining a data file representing a natural color three-dimensional image of the surface of a subject are disclosed. The apparatus incorporates a plurality of scanners, each comprising illuminating means and digital camera means, disposed about the subject, and computer means to correlate the images and store the data file. An apparatus and method for producing a natural color three-dimensional model from that data file are also disclosed. The use of rapid prototyping and manufacturing technology for manufacturing a model is disclosed. The present invention is particularly applicable to human subjects.

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